REMARKS

The Final Office Action dated April 27, 2005 has been carefully considered. Claims 1-2, 5-8, 11-14, 17-20, and 23-24 are pending. The above amendments and the following remarks are presented in a sincere attempt to place this Application in condition for allowance. Claims 1, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19, and 23 have been amended in this Response. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and following remarks.

Claims 1-2, 5-8, 11-14, 17-20 and 23-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) in view of U.S. Patent 5,924,116 to Aggarwal et al. ("Aggarwal"). Insofar as these rejections may be applied against the amended claims, they are deemed overcome.

Claim 1 has been amended to clarify a distinguishing feature of the present invention. The method of Claim 1 describes "determining URL information that should be invalidated, including URL information for one or more URLs." Support for this amendment can be found, among other places, page 10, line 16 through page 11, line 9 of the original Application.

The Aggarwal reference does not suggest, teach, or disclose this feature of the present invention. Aggarwal discloses using a cache hierarchy label ("CHL") to indicate where URL information should be cached. The CHL does not have the ability to indicate to the cache proxy that specific URL information should be invalidated. Aggarwal discloses a process to determine if specific URL information is obsolete by using a time stamp, but this process only works after the URL information has been requested again. In contrast, the present invention determines URL information that should be invalidated, wherein the URL information can be represented by one or more URLs. Accordingly, in one response URL information corresponding to multiple URLs can be invalidated. Furthermore, the URL information becomes invalidated by the response without checking a time stamp on the URL information as required by Aggarwal.

In view of the foregoing, it is apparent that the cited reference does not disclose, teach, or suggest the unique combination now recited in amended Claim 1. Applicants therefore submit that amended Claim 1 is both clearly and precisely distinguishable over the cited references in a patentable sense. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) in view of Aggarwal be withdrawn and that amended Claim 1 be allowed.

Claim 2 depends upon and further limits amended Claim 1. Hence, for at least the aforementioned reasons, these Claims should be deemed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of dependent Claim 2 also be withdrawn.

Claim 5 has been amended to clarify a distinguishing feature of the present invention. The method of Claim 5 describes "determining URL information that should be invalidated, including URL information for one or more URLs, and indicating in the header the URL information to be invalidated." Support for this amendment can be found, among other places, page 10, line 16 through page 11, line 9 of the original Application.

The Aggarwal reference does not suggest, teach, or disclose this feature of the present invention. Aggarwal discloses using a CHL to indicate where URL information should be cached. The CHL does not have the ability to indicate to the cache proxy that specific URL information should be invalidated. Aggarwal discloses a process to determine if specific URL information is obsolete by using a time stamp, but this process only works after the URL information has been requested again. In contrast, the present invention determines URL information that should be invalidated, wherein the URL information can be represented by one or more URLs. Accordingly, in one response URL information corresponding to multiple URLs can be invalidated. Furthermore, the URL information becomes invalidated by the response without checking a time stamp on the

URL information as required by Aggarwal. The present method of invalidating URL information is clearly more efficient than the method disclosed by Aggarwal.

In view of the foregoing, it is apparent that the cited reference does not disclose, teach, or suggest the unique combination now recited in amended Claim 5. Applicants therefore submit that amended Claim 5 is both clearly and precisely distinguishable over the cited references in a patentable sense. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) in view of Aggarwal be withdrawn and that amended Claim 5 be allowed.

Claim 6 depends upon and further limits amended Claim 5. Hence, for at least the aforementioned reasons, these Claims should be deemed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of dependent Claim 6 also be withdrawn.

Claim 7 has been amended to clarify a distinguishing feature of the present invention. The method of Claim 7 describes "determining whether the response is an update request, wherein in response to an update request determining URL information that should be invalidated, including URL information for the one or more URLs." Support for this amendment can be found, among other places, page 10, line 16 through page 11, line 9 of the original Application.

The Aggarwal reference does not suggest, teach, or disclose this feature of the present invention. Aggarwal discloses using a CHL to indicate where URL information should be cached. The CHL does not have the ability to indicate to the cache proxy that specific URL information should be invalidated. Aggarwal discloses a process to determine if specific URL information is obsolete by using a time stamp, but this process only works after the URL information has been requested again. In contrast, for an update request the present invention determines URL information that should be invalidated, wherein the URL information can be represented by one or

more URLs. Accordingly, in one response URL information corresponding to multiple URLs can be invalidated. Furthermore, the URL information becomes invalidated by the response without checking a time stamp on the URL information as required by Aggarwal. The present method of updating cache information is much more efficient than the method disclosed by Aggarwal because out of date URL information can be invalidated in response to an update request.

In view of the foregoing, it is apparent that the cited reference does not disclose, teach, or suggest the unique combination now recited in amended Claim 7. Applicants therefore submit that amended Claim 7 is both clearly and precisely distinguishable over the cited references in a patentable sense. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) in view of Aggarwal be withdrawn and that amended Claim 7 be allowed.

Claim 8 depends upon and further limits amended Claim 7. Hence, for at least the aforementioned reasons, these Claims should be deemed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of dependent Claim 8 also be withdrawn.

Claim 11 has been amended to clarify a distinguishing feature of the present invention. The method of Claim 11 describes "determining URL information that should be invalidated, including URL information for one or more URLs." Support for this amendment can be found, among other places, page 10, line 16 through page 11, line 9 of the original Application.

The Aggarwal reference does not suggest, teach, or disclose this feature of the present invention. Aggarwal discloses using a CHL to indicate where URL information should be cached. The CHL does not have the ability to indicate to the cache proxy that specific URL information should be invalidated. Aggarwal discloses a process to determine if specific URL information is obsolete by using a time stamp, but this process only works after the URL information has been

requested again. In contrast, the present invention determines URL information that should be invalidated, wherein the URL information can be represented by one or more URLs. Accordingly, in one response URL information corresponding to multiple URLs can be invalidated. Furthermore, the URL information becomes invalidated by the response without checking a time stamp on the URL information as required by Aggarwal.

In view of the foregoing, it is apparent that the cited reference does not disclose, teach, or suggest the unique combination now recited in amended Claim 11. Applicants therefore submit that amended Claim 11 is both clearly and precisely distinguishable over the cited references in a patentable sense. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) in view of Aggarwal be withdrawn and that amended Claim 11 be allowed.

Claim 12 depends upon and further limits amended Claim 11. Hence, for at least the aforementioned reasons, these Claims should be deemed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of dependent Claim 12 also be withdrawn.

Claim 13 has been amended to clarify a distinguishing feature of the present invention. The apparatus of Claim 13 describes "means for determining URL information that should be invalidated, including URL information for one or more URLs." Support for this amendment can be found, among other places, page 10, line 16 through page 11, line 9 of the original Application.

The Aggarwal reference does not suggest, teach, or disclose this feature of the present invention. Aggarwal discloses using a CHL to indicate where URL information should be cached. The CHL does not have the ability to indicate to the cache proxy that specific URL information should be invalidated. Aggarwal discloses a process to determine if specific URL information is obsolete by using a time stamp, but this process only works after the URL information has been

requested again. In contrast, the present invention determines URL information that should be invalidated, wherein the URL information can be represented by one or more URLs. Accordingly, in one response URL information corresponding to multiple URLs can be invalidated. Furthermore, the URL information becomes invalidated by the response without checking a time stamp on the URL information as required by Aggarwal.

In view of the foregoing, it is apparent that the cited reference does not disclose, teach, or suggest the unique combination now recited in amended Claim 13. Applicants therefore submit that amended Claim 13 is both clearly and precisely distinguishable over the cited references in a patentable sense. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) in view of Aggarwal be withdrawn and that amended Claim 13 be allowed.

Claim 14 depends upon and further limits amended Claim 13. Hence, for at least the aforementioned reasons, these Claims should be deemed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of dependent Claim 14 also be withdrawn.

Claim 17 has been amended to clarify a distinguishing feature of the present invention. The apparatus of Claim 17 describes "means for determining URL information that should be invalidated, including URL information for one or more URLs, and means for indicating in the header the URL information to be invalidated." Support for this amendment can be found, among other places, page 10, line 16 through page 11, line 9 of the original Application.

The Aggarwal reference does not suggest, teach, or disclose this feature of the present invention. Aggarwal discloses using a CHL to indicate where URL information should be cached. The CHL does not have the ability to indicate to the cache proxy that specific URL information should be invalidated. Aggarwal discloses a process to determine if specific URL information is

obsolete by using a time stamp, but this process only works after the URL information has been requested again. In contrast, the present invention determines URL information that should be invalidated, wherein the URL information can be represented by one or more URLs. Accordingly, in one response URL information corresponding to multiple URLs can be invalidated. Furthermore, the URL information becomes invalidated by the response without checking a time stamp on the URL information as required by Aggarwal. The present apparatus of invalidating URL information is clearly more efficient than the apparatus disclosed by Aggarwal.

In view of the foregoing, it is apparent that the cited reference does not disclose, teach, or suggest the unique combination now recited in amended Claim 17. Applicants therefore submit that amended Claim 17 is both clearly and precisely distinguishable over the cited references in a patentable sense. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claim 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) in view of Aggarwal be withdrawn and that amended Claim 17 be allowed.

Claim 18 depends upon and further limits amended Claim 17. Hence, for at least the aforementioned reasons, these Claims should be deemed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of dependent Claim 18 also be withdrawn.

Claim 19 has been amended to clarify a distinguishing feature of the present invention. The apparatus of Claim 19 describes "means for determining whether the response is an update request, wherein in response to an update request determining URL information that should be invalidated, including URL information for the one or more URLs." Support for this amendment can be found, among other places, page 10, line 16 through page 11, line 9 of the original Application.

The Aggarwal reference does not suggest, teach, or disclose this feature of the present invention. Aggarwal discloses using a CHL to indicate where URL information should be cached.

The CHL does not have the ability to indicate to the cache proxy that specific URL information should be invalidated. Aggarwal discloses a process to determine if specific URL information is obsolete by using a time stamp, but this process only works after the URL information has been requested again. In contrast, for an update request the present invention determines URL information that should be invalidated, wherein the URL information can be represented by one or more URLs. Accordingly, in one response URL information corresponding to multiple URLs can be invalidated. Furthermore, the URL information becomes invalidated by the response without checking a time stamp on the URL information as required by Aggarwal. The present apparatus for updating cache information is much more efficient than the apparatus disclosed by Aggarwal because out of date URL information can be invalidated in response to an update request.

In view of the foregoing, it is apparent that the cited reference does not disclose, teach, or suggest the unique combination now recited in amended Claim 19. Applicants therefore submit that amended Claim 7 is both clearly and precisely distinguishable over the cited references in a patentable sense. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claim 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) in view of Aggarwal be withdrawn and that amended Claim 19 be allowed.

Claim 20 depends upon and further limits amended Claim 19. Hence, for at least the aforementioned reasons, these Claims should be deemed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of dependent Claim 20 also be withdrawn.

Claim 23 has been amended to clarify a distinguishing feature of the present invention. The apparatus of Claim 11 describes "means for determining URL information that should be invalidated, including URL information for one or more URLs." Support for this amendment can be found, among other places, page 10, line 16 through page 11, line 9 of the original Application.

The Aggarwal reference does not suggest, teach, or disclose this feature of the present invention. Aggarwal discloses using a CHL to indicate where URL information should be cached. The CHL does not have the ability to indicate to the cache proxy that specific URL information should be invalidated. Aggarwal discloses a process to determine if specific URL information is obsolete by using a time stamp, but this process only works after the URL information has been requested again. In contrast, the present invention determines URL information that should be invalidated, wherein the URL information can be represented by one or more URLs. Accordingly, in one response URL information corresponding to multiple URLs can be invalidated. Furthermore, the URL information becomes invalidated by the response without checking a time stamp on the URL information as required by Aggarwal.

In view of the foregoing, it is apparent that the cited reference does not disclose, teach, or suggest the unique combination now recited in amended Claim 23. Applicants therefore submit that amended Claim 23 is both clearly and precisely distinguishable over the cited references in a patentable sense. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claim 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) in view of Aggarwal be withdrawn and that amended Claim 23 be allowed.

Claim 24 depends upon and further limits amended Claim 23. Hence, for at least the aforementioned reasons, these Claims should be deemed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of dependent Claim 24 also be withdrawn.

Applicants have now made an earnest attempt to place this Application in condition for allowance. For the foregoing reasons and for other reasons clearly apparent, Applicants respectfully request full allowance of Claims 1-2, 5-8, 11-14, 17-20 and 23-24.
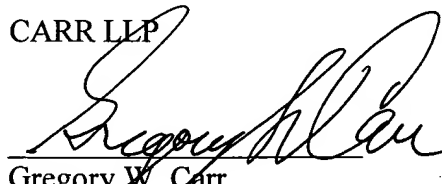
Applicants do not believe that any fees are due; however, in the event that any fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any required fees due (other than issue fees), and to credit any overpayment made, in connection with the filing of this paper to Deposit Account No. 50-0605 of CARR LLP.

Should the Examiner deem that any further amendment is desirable to place this application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: 6/27/05

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